

LISNEY RAISE €9,080 TO SUPPORT OLDER PEOPLE

Lisney staff will be holding further fundraising events for ALONE throughout the year including a Tidy Up of ALONE Housing. The company will also support employees in becoming ALONE befriending volunteers and offer their professional skills by providing strategic property advice and services when necessary. Lisney launched their year long charity partnership with ALONE with an auction on the 27th of April. The highlight of the evening was a Kerryman trying to outbid a Dubliner for the signed Dublin GAA jersey! This item alone raised a staggering €2,800.



Bidder at Lisney Auction for ALONE

COPORATE PARTNERSHIPS CREATE MORE SUPPORT FOR OLDER PEOPLE.

A huge thank you to EY, Top Oil, and Lisney for choosing ALONE as their charity partner. We are looking forward to the creative projects, fundraising events, and fun volunteer days ahead.



VOLUNTEER DAY: DOOSAN GROUP

Thanks so much to the lovely team from Doosan Group. They joined us last April for a volunteer day of gardening and painting at ALONE Walk. This work would be impossible without volunteers like you!



Supporting older people to age at home

ALONE

Supporting older people to age at home

CELEBRATING



Willie Bermingham, founder of ALONE

SPECIAL EDITION 40 YEARS SUPPORTING OLDER PEOPLE

A.L.O.N.E ('A Little Offering Never Ends') founded by Dublin Firefighter Willie Bermingham on May 13th.

1977

1990: ALONE founder Willie Bermingham dies aged 48.

1978: The first Annual General Meeting of ALONE is held on 15th February 1978 in Wynn's Hotel in Lower Abbey Street.

Thanks to ALONE supporters, 10 older people are housed in newly-built ALONE social housing at Willie Bermingham Place.

1991

1979 Willie Bermingham is honoured with a 'People of the Year' award.

1992: ALONE begin regular interaction with Schools. Do you remember your ALONE school talk? Tell us what it meant to you #ALONE40years.

ALONE successfully lobbies the government to grant £1 million in funding to The Task Force for Special Housing Needs of the Elderly scheme.

1982

2007: ALONE publish a directory of services for older people and carers to ensure every older person in Ireland has access to services.

1986: 10 ALONE homes for older people are built in Artane with lifetime tenancies. **1986:** ALONE are influential in the formation of the National Council for the Aged.

As austerity hits Ireland, ALONE begins a larger-scale recruitment drive of staff and volunteers. 85 volunteers are taken on to befriend older people and alleviate loneliness.

2009

1988 ALONE Millennium Plot opened in Glasnevin Cemetery to ensure impoverished older people would not be buried in an unmarked grave. 148 people have been buried there in the past 27 years.

2014 ALONE CEO & Board invest €1.4million to ensure all people in Ireland can age at home with 5 year plan 'No one left behind.'

ALONE is the first Irish Befriending organisation to receive the Quality in Befriending Award.

2016

#RIGHT2HOMECARE

ALONE engages in government consultation on homecare

ALONE has joined forces with 12 other charities and advocacy groups (including Age Action, Alzheimer Society of Ireland, MS Ireland) to create a submission paper on the new statutory homecare scheme, as proposed by Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People, Helen McEntee TD.

“We need to work together in order to introduce a homecare system that works for everyone. We look forward to working with the Minister on this process, and hope to explore ways in which services can be allocated fairly. At the moment, there doesn't seem to be clarity on this. By making homecare a statutory service, it should provide people with care as needed - regardless of age, geography or economic circumstances.”

“As part of the consultation process, we hope to explore types of assessments which could be used to best allocate services in a timely and fair way. There does not appear to be clarity about how this currently happens. By placing the scheme on a statutory footing, it should provide people with care as needed - regardless of age, geography or economic circumstances.”



Happy National Volunteer Week!



It was National Volunteer week from May 15th - 21st. Volunteers are the backbone of **ALONE**. Without the generosity of our volunteers, we wouldn't be able to support and provide companionship to hundreds of older people across Ireland. At the moment, we have over **500** volunteers, who provided a whopping **46,800** hours for an estimated value of **€702,000** in 2016.

‘It is incredible the difference that only 1 hour per week can make to someone, and also the real sense of fulfilment that you get from volunteering with **ALONE**’ -

Aaron Gilmartin, Brendan Crean's volunteer.

ElectroRoute & Mitsubishi help older people to get out and about.

ALONE Support Coordinators and volunteers support over 500 older people each month. Our new Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV, donated by ElectroRoute & Mitsubishi, means we can visit vulnerable older people.

The **ALONE** car will also travel throughout the country offering specialised befriending training to other organisations within the Befriending Network Ireland (BNI). Learn more about BNI at www.alone.ie.

Thanks so much!



SPRING IS NATURE'S WAY OF SAYING... LET'S DANCE!

Thanks to your support, **ALONE** runs three dinner dances throughout the year for the older people who use our services and their Befriending volunteers. This year's Spring Dinner Dance took place on April 8th in the Red Cow Moran Hotel.

The sun was shining and so were the **116 older people and 56 volunteers** who attended this event filled with music, good food, and more than a little fun. Watermelon, roasted turkey, salmon and ice-cream were part of a delicious and very summery menu that also included two cakes to celebrate **ALONE's** 40th anniversary. Thank you to the older people, volunteers, and staff for making it possible and for creating an evening to remember.

You can check out all the fun moments on our Youtube channel at www.youtube.com/ALONEIreland. Please like and share the fantastic video created by Cian Brennan.

“It's all about collaboration” Minister McEntee launches new ALONE North-East Hub

ALONE's new partnership with Netwell CASALA (the research centre for ageing at Dundalk Institute of Technology) will see the expansion of existing social care and community support services for older people in the North East, which covers CHO Area 8 (Laois/Offaly, Longford/Westmeath, Louth/Meath).

Since 2007, over 1,500 individual older people in North Louth have been supported by Netwell CASALA services with a further 300 older people receiving a weekly phone call from the Good Morning Louth phone service.

Speaking at the launch, Minister McEntee said “This is very good news for older people in the North East. Rodd Bond, Head of Netwell Casala, commented, “It is fantastic that **ALONE**, who have such expertise in the area of supporting older people to age



Minister McEntee with the team at ALONE North East Hub.

at home, is taking our services and growing them to support more and more older people throughout the North East.” Support services for older people include: befriending visits and telephone service, social support services, housing services, and social clubs. Referrals can be made with the permission of the older person by a family member, friend, neighbour, HSE or Gardaí.

If you would like any further details, please go to www.alone.ie or phone Pat Kerins on 042 93 70361.

